Remarks

Currently pending in the application are claims 13-25.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 13, 14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ogata et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,463,011).

Amended claim 13 is directed to a compound of general formula (I) or (II). The compound of formula (I) or (II) is a naphthalene derivative in which the hydroxyl group at the β or 2-naphthol position is alkylated by a C_{1-12} alkyl or C_{3-12} alkenyl group and is represented by:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_2 \\
R_3 \\
N \\
R_1 \\
R_4 \\
CH_2 \\
OR \\
R_6 \\
R_7 \\
R_8 \\
R_9
\end{array}$$
(I)

Support for the amendment can be found at, for example, page 4, line 5, or claim 16 of the present application.

In comparison, Ogata et al. discloses benzylimidazole derivatives, and in particular, a compound having the formula

Ogata et al. neither discloses nor suggests a naphthalene derivative in which the hydroxyl group at the β or 2-naphthol position is alkylated by a C_{I-12} alkyl or C_{3-12} alkenyl group as currently claimed in claim 13. Since each and every element set forth in claim 13 is not found, either expressly or inherently, in Ogata et al., claim 13, and all claims depending on claim 13, are not anticipated by Ogata et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection based on 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 19, 23 and 24. Applicant has amended claims 20-22 and 25 by removing the capitalization of the word "Claim" in these claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the objection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that claims 13-25 are patentable and are in a condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests all pending claims be allowed and that the application pass to issuance.

Should any fee be due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to deduct said fee from Huntsman Corporation Deposit Account No. 08-3442.

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Date: 6/9/08